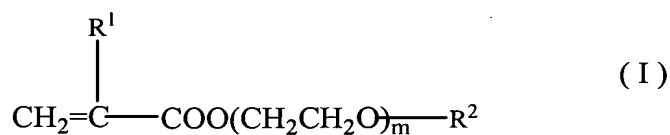


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An aqueous dispersion comprising water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles, which comprise a water-insoluble vinyl polymer and C.I. Pigment Blue 15:4 as a colorant, wherein said water-insoluble vinyl polymer is prepared by polymerizing a monomer composition comprising:

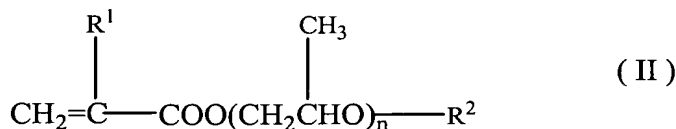
(A) 0 to 45% by weight of a monomer A represented by formula (I):



wherein  $\text{R}^1$  is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group;  $\text{R}^2$  is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a phenyl group which may have an alkyl group having 1 to 9 carbon atoms; and  $m$  is a number of 1 to 30;

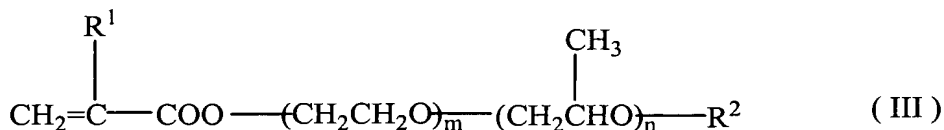
(B)  $[[0]] \leq$  5 to 45% by weight of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of:

a monomer B1 represented by formula (II):



wherein  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  are as defined above; and  $n$  is a number of 1 to 30,

a monomer B2 represented by formula (III):



wherein  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $m$  and  $n$  are as defined above, and the oxypropylene group and oxytetramethylene group are present in a block or random form,

a monomer B3 represented by the formula (IV):

(C) 3 to 40% by weight of a monomer having a salt-forming group; and

wherein the total content of the monomer A and the monomer B in the monomer composition is at least 5% by weight, and the amount of the polymer is 20 to 200 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of C.I. Pigment Blue 15:4.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the copolymerizable monomer comprises at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of an aromatic ring-containing monomer and a styrenic macromer.

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monomer selected from the group consisting of styrene,  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene, vinyltoluene and vinylnaphthalene.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 4, wherein the copolymerizable monomer comprises a styrenic macromer having a polymerizable functional group at one end.

Claim 6 (Original): A water-based ink comprising the aqueous dispersion according to claim 1.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The water-based ink according to claim 6, wherein the total content of the monomer A and the monomer B in the monomer composition is 5 to 45% by weight.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The water-based ink according to Claim 6, wherein the copolymerizable monomer comprises at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of an aromatic ring-containing monomer and a styrenic macromer.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The water-based ink according to claim 8, wherein the copolymerizable monomer comprises at least one aromatic ring-containing monomer selected from the group consisting of styrene,  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene, vinyltoluene and vinylnaphthalene.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The water-based ink according to claim 8, wherein the copolymerizable monomer comprises a styrenic macromer having a polymerizable functional group at one end.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer consists of polymerized monomer units of three or more of monomers (A), (B), (C) and (D).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles consist of a water-insoluble vinyl polymer prepared by polymerizing ~~monomers~~ a monomer composition comprising a monomer having only a single ethylenically unsaturated group.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the monomer (C) is at least one selected from the group consisting of an unsaturated carboxylic monomer, an unsaturated sulfonic monomer, and an unsaturated phosphoric acid monomer.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles consist of a water-insoluble vinyl polymer consisting of polymerized units of polyethylene glycol monomethacrylate, methacrylic acid, and styrene.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles consist of a water-insoluble vinyl

polymer consisting of polymerized monomer units of polyethylene glycol monomethacrylate, methacrylic acid, styrene, and a styrenic macromer having a polymerizable methacryloyloxy group at one end.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles consist of a water-insoluble vinyl polymer consisting of polymerized monomer units of polyethylene glycol monomethacrylate, polypropylene glycol monomethacrylate, methacrylic acid, styrene, and a styrenic macromer having a polymerizable methacryloyloxy group.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The water-based ink according to Claim 7, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer comprises polymerized monomer units of polyethylene glycol monomethacrylate, methacrylic acid, and styrene.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The water-based ink according to Claim 7, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles consist of a water-insoluble vinyl polymer consisting of polymerized monomer units of polyethylene glycol monomethacrylate, methacrylic acid, styrene, and a styrenic macromer having a polymerizable methacryloyloxy group.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The water-based ink according to Claim 7, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles consist of a water-insoluble vinyl polymer consisting of polymerized monomer units of polyethylene glycol monomethacrylate, polypropylene glycol monomethacrylate, methacrylic acid, styrene, and a styrenic macromer having a polymerizable methacryloyloxy group.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The water-based ink according to Claim 7, wherein the monomer (C) is at least one selected from the group consisting of an unsaturated carboxylic monomer, an unsaturated sulfonic monomer, and an unsaturated phosphoric acid monomer.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The water-based ink according to Claim 7, having an angular dependency of color tone having maximum change in  $a^*$  of less than 40.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles consist of a water-insoluble vinyl polymer containing polymerized monomer units of ~~only at least three~~ or more of monomers (A), (B), (C), and (D).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The water-based ink according to Claim 7, wherein the water-insoluble vinyl polymer particles consist of a water-insoluble vinyl polymer containing polymerized monomer units of only at least three of monomers (A), (B), (C), and (D).

Claim 24 (New): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein (B) is a styrenic macromer.

Claim 25 (New): The aqueous dispersion according to Claim 1, wherein (D) is a silicone monomethacrylate, polypropylene glycol monomethacrylate, methacrylic acid, .

Claim 26 (New): The aqueous dispersion of Claim 1, wherein the water-insoluble polymer comprises polymerized units of polyethylene glycol monomethacrylate, polypropylene monomethacrylate, methacrylic acid, styrenic monomer and styrenic macomer.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-26 are active in the present application. Independent Claim 1 has been amended to require that the claimed aqueous dispersion includes a water-insoluble vinyl polymer that contains polymerized units of a monomer corresponding to the monomers identified as (B) in Claim 1. Support for the amendment is found, for example, on page 10, line 4. Claim 1 has been further amended to state that monomer (D) is a styrenic macromer and/or a silicone macromer. Support for the amendment is found in the previously presented claim. Claims 24-26 are new claims. Support for the new claims is found in previously presented Claim 1. Dependent Claims 12, 14-16, 18-19 and 22-23 have been amended for clarity and to correct a typographical error.

No new matter is added.